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Plant CLEMATIS this Fall

ALTHOUGH most people plant Clematis in spring, the experts and Clematis fans do their planting in the fall and virtually gain a year over the spring planters.

Clematis are hardy plants and, like all permanent plants of similar hardiness, when planted in the fall take advantage of periods when the ground is not frozen to develop a root system; as a result, when spring brings real growing weather, the fall-planted plant is ready to go to work with a set of feeding roots already established, a task which will take the spring-planted plant several weeks to accomplish.

There are two important things the fall planter must do: one is tie the plants to a small stake so that wind and ice cannot injure the rather fragile stems, and the second is mulch the ground around the plants with manure, straw, leaves, peat moss, or other material to prevent alternate freezing and thawing of the ground around the stem. Work mulch into ground in spring. Uncover early as the Clematis is about the first plant to start.

Certain Clematis which do best that way are shipped bare root and should be planted as shown in the cut, having the roots spread out and the crown at least 2 inches under ground.

Most varieties, however, will be taken from pots and will have their roots in a ball of soil. Set these plants without disturbing the ball of soil so that the crown will be at least 2 inches below soil-level.

To prevent mice and rabbits damaging the stems during a hard winter, surround each plant with a hill of clean earth or a collar, the latter may be made of window screen or other small-meshed wire, or even metal or earthenware. A collar made from a piece of 4-inch pipe, slipped over the plant when planting and pushed into the ground several inches, will not only protect the canes from animal injury but will keep the gardener from damaging the plant when hoeing.

Shipments will be made from late September until frost, depending on locality.

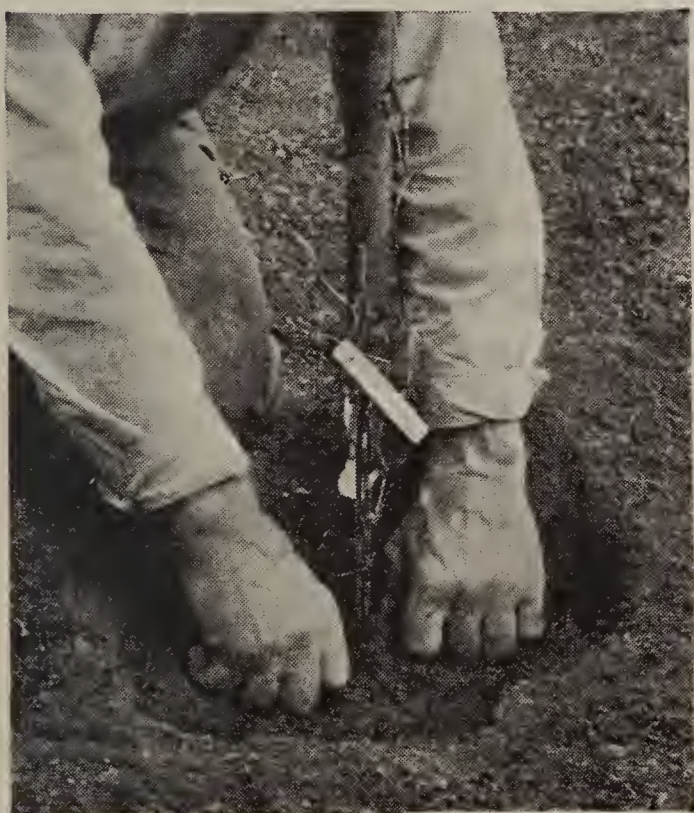
If you have never planted Clematis in the fall, try it this fall and see how practical it is.

JAMES I. GEORGE & SON

Fairport, New York



Without breaking ball of soil, set plant in hole so that when hole is filled up crown of plant will be covered with 2 or 3 inches of soil



Pack soil firmly



Hill up with clean earth, peat moss, manure, straw, or leaves for winter protection



Large-flowering Clematis, Nelly Moser, lends itself to pillar treatment



Small-flowering Clematis, Paniculata, a vigorous grower

JAMES I. GEORGE & SON, Fairport, N. Y.

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